

## The Mughal Empire Factors to Consider

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) A cosmopolitan military elite made up of Persian and Turkish Muslims and Indian Hindus known as *mansabdars* dominated positions of power and members became top bureaucrats during the first century of Mughal rule (16<sup>th</sup> century).
- 2) Indian merchants traded cotton textiles and other goods on overland trade routes to Russia and across Eurasia.
- 3) Demand for Indian cotton textiles was high in West Africa and in Europe.
- 4) In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, in order to attract European silver through trade, Mughal emperors gave both the Dutch and English East India Companies freedom from internal tolls.
- 5) After the death of Akbar, religious tolerance waned in the Mughal Empire and restrictions on Hindus returned, especially under Aurangzeb in the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century.
- 6) Mughal leaders had to contend with constant anti-Muslim, Hindu revolts in order to hold on to power.
- 7) Mughal leaders faced the challenge of defending their vast territory, collecting taxes, and paying soldiers and the bureaucracy.
- 8) Land and agriculture were the predominant sources of wealth in the Mughal Empire.
- 9) In the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, Mughal princes, known as *nawabs*, who lived in outlying areas began to trade on their own with incoming Europeans, particularly the English, in order to expand their own power.
- 10) The Mughal Empire did not have a navy or merchant fleet.